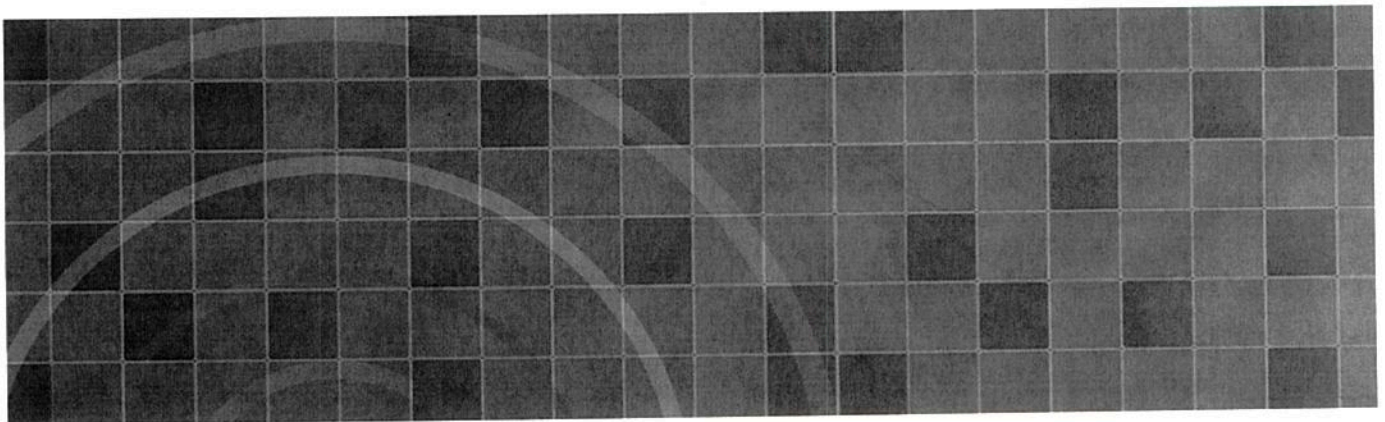


WPN 18-102 | Electronic

RFP # NC-17-00019

Research Support for Environmental Epidemiologic Studies

Part I. Technical Proposal



January 17, 2018

Submitted to:
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency
109 T.W. Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Submitted by:
Westat
An Employee-Owned Research
Corporation®
1600 Research Boulevard
Rockville, Maryland 20850-3129
(301) 251-1500

This proposal includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed – in whole or in part – for any purpose other than to evaluate this proposal. If, however, a contract is awarded to this offeror or quoter as a result of – or in connection with – the submission of this data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting contract. This restriction does not limit the Government's right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to the restriction are contained on all pages.



An Employee-Owned
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fax: 301-294-2040
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January 17, 2018

Via FedConnect

Ms. Adrienne Wells
William Jefferson Clinton Building
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code: 3803R
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Wells:

RE: SOL-NC-17-00019 Research Support for Environmental Epidemiologic Studies

Dear Ms. Wells:

On behalf of Westat, I am pleased to submit this proposal in response to the above referenced solicitation. Westat is a leader in epidemiologic exposure research and is excited by this opportunity to continue these activities for EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD.) Our proposed project leader, (b) (4) brings to this contract more than 25 years of experience in environmental health and environmental protection research and management, including the successful management of complex and multifaceted epidemiologic field studies. She has served EPA's ORD as project leader of several EPA contracts, most notably the existing *EPA Human Studies Research Support for Environmental Epidemiologic Studies* contract and the *Technical Support for a Prospective Cohort Study: Health Effects of Microbial Pathogens in Recreational Water and Characterization of Associated Water Quality* contracts. Ms. Della Torre is a certified Project Management Professional.

The other members of our leadership team are similarly well experienced and highly qualified.

(b) (4)

This proposal is Westat's official offer to the Government for this solicitation, and is firm for a period of 180 days from the date of this letter. We look forward to discussions with you regarding our proposal and how we can continue to serve the EPA's ORD.

Sincerely,

(b) (4)

Jane Schulman, Ph.D.
Vice President

Cover Letter Attachment

1.	Solicitation number:	RFP # SOL-NC-17-00019
2.	Name and address, and telephone and facsimile numbers of the offeror (and electronic address if available):	Westat 1600 Research Blvd. Rockville, MD 20850-3129 Telephone: (301) 251-1500 Fax: (301) 294-2040
3.	Names, titles, telephone and facsimile numbers (and electronic addresses if available) or persons authorized to negotiate on the offeror's behalf with the Government in connection with this solicitation:	<p>Jane Schulman, Ph.D. Vice President Health Sector Studies Westat 1600 Research Blvd. Rockville, MD 20850-3129 Telephone: (b) (4) Fax: (b) (4) Email: (b) (4)</p> <p>E. Patricia Espey-English Vice President Marketing Westat 1600 Research Blvd. Rockville, MD 20850-3129 Telephone: (b) (4) Fax: (b) (4) Email: (b) (4)</p>
4.	Names, titles, and signature of persons authorized to sign proposal.	<p>Jane Schulman, Ph.D. Vice President, Health Sector Studies (b) (4)</p> <p>E. Patricia Espey-English Vice President, Marketing (b) (4)</p>
5.	Name, title, and signature of principals of the firm.	<p>James E. Smith, Ph.D. Chief Executive Officer (b) (4)</p> <p>Scott Royal, Ph.D. President (b) (4)</p>

6.	The name, address, telephone number, facsimile number, and electronic address of the individual in the Offeror's organization to be contacted, if necessary, during evaluation of the proposal.	<p>Jane Schulman, Ph.D. Vice President Health Sector Studies Westat 1600 Research Blvd. Rockville, MD 20850-3129 Telephone: (b) (4) Fax: (b) (4) Email: (b) (4)</p> <p>(b) (4) Associate Director Health Sector Studies Westat 1600 Research Blvd. Rockville, MD 20850-3129 Telephone: (b) (4) Fax: (b) (4) Email: (b) (4)</p>
7.	The complete formal name and address of the Offeror's organization and/or other participants to be used in any resulting contract. Provide Dun and Bradstreet LTD DUNS number for each organization and new entity if one is being created.	<p>Westat, Inc. DUNS: 04-950-8120</p>
8.	The name, address, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, and electronic addresses of representatives of the Government agency having administrative cognizance over the Offeror, contractor team arrangement (as defined at FAR 9.601), or parent company, as applicable (such as contract administration within the meaning of FAR 42.3, Audit, and Equal Employment Opportunity).	<p>Michele Wanzer Smith National Institutes of Health Division of Financial Advisory Services 6011 Executive Blvd, Room 549H Rockville MD 20852-7663 Telephone: (301) 496-5562 Email: Michele.Smith2@nih.gov</p>
9.	A statement that the Offeror grants to the EPA or its authorized representatives, the right to examine, for purposes of verifying the information submitted, those books, records, documents, and other supporting data that will permit adequate evaluation; and this right may be exercised in connection with any such reviews deemed necessary by the Government.	<p>Westat grants the EPA, or its authorized representatives, the right to examine, for purposes of verifying the information submitted, those of our books, records, documents, and other supporting data that will permit adequate evaluation. This right may be exercised in connection with any such reviews deemed necessary by the Government.</p>

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3. Past Performance

Westat has extensive past performance that is highly relevant to this procurement in scope, complexity, and size. (b) (4)

(b) (4)

Westat projects are overwhelmingly government funded research and analysis. (b) (4)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

3.1 Contracts and/or Subcontracts Currently in Progress

The following are descriptions of three projects that are currently in progress. Because Westat has many ongoing studies that are similar in scope to the SOW, we have selected three that we consider to be most relevant.

3.1.1 Human Studies Research Support for Human Environmental Epidemiologic Studies

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL)
- (b) **Contract number:** EP-D-12-050
- (c) **Contract title:** Human Studies Research Support for Human Environmental Epidemiologic Studies
- (d) **Contract type:** Cost Plus Fixed Fee
- (e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

The National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts research into the effects of environmental factors on human health. The primary goal of this research is to strengthen the scientific basis for risk assessment. A broad range of environmental epidemiologic investigations have been undertaken by NHEERL to address the short- and long-term effects of environmental stressors and contaminants.

Under this and two previous contracts, Westat (b) (4)

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(b) (4)

- (f) **Total contract value:** \$5,000,000
- (g) **Period of performance:** 8-02-12 to 2-1-18
- (h) **Contracting Officer contact:** Adrienne Wells, 202-564-3339, wells.adrienne@epa.gov
- (i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** Edward Hudgens, 919-966-0642, Hudgens.edward@epa.gov
- (j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** Lenora Hilliard, 919 541-4392, hilliard.lenora@epa.gov
- (k) **List of subcontractors (if applicable):** (b) (4)
- (l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** Not in compliance. Because this is an IDIQ contract, the attainment of small business goals depends on the type of work actually assigned during the contract, which is not known at the time the small business subcontracting plan was proposed; (b) (4) FAR reporting not applicable.

3.1.2 Children's Health Exposure Analysis Resource (CHEAR) Coordinating Center

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- (b) **Grant number:** 1U24ES026539-01; Administrative Supplement 3U24ES026539-01S1; Administrative Supplement 3U24ES026539-01S2
- (c) **Contract title:** Children's Health Exposure Analysis Resource (CHEAR) Coordinating Center
- (d) **Contract type:** Cooperative Agreement
- (e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) has established an infrastructure, the Children's Health Exposure Analysis Resource (CHEAR), to provide the extramural research

community access to laboratory and statistical analyses to add or expand the inclusion of environmental exposures in their research. CHEAR is composed of three components: a Coordinating Center (CC), a National Exposure Assessment Laboratory Network, and an Exposure Data Repository and Resource for Statistical Analysis and Methods Development. Westat is the CC for CHEAR. CHEAR provides a range of sophisticated laboratory analyses and data services to the exposure science and children's health research community. The main goal of the CC is to provide researchers with a convenient and unified interface to access the available services of this complex network. The CC has created and maintains a comprehensive index of CHEAR laboratory and data services, methodologies, and expertise available to researchers; provides a public website as the primary means for researchers to access information about CHEAR's capabilities and initiate proposals to use CHEAR's resources; has established and manages processes for proposal submission and evaluation; monitors the progress of approved proposals and track services workflow; define the quality standards by which the performance of CHEAR will be measured; support the standardization of laboratory analyses and processes; organizes and supports CHEAR oversight committees; has established and manages a Pilot and Feasibility Program; has developed and maintains strategic communication plan for CHEAR; and leveraged the CHEAR public website and social media to facilitate communication with the broader scientific community.

(b) (4)

- (f) **Total grant value:** Original Grant with two Administrative Supplements: \$5,497,406
- (g) **Period of performance:** 9-30-15 to 8-31-19
- (h) **Grants Officer contact:** James Williams, (919) 541-1403, james.williams3@nih.gov
- (i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** David Balshaw, (919) 541-2448, balshaw@niehs.nih.gov
- (j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** N/A
- (k) **List of subcontractors (if applicable):** (b) (4)
- (l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** Not applicable.

3.1.3 Interdisciplinary Studies of Genetic and Environmental Causes of Cancer

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** National Cancer Institute
- (b) **Contract number:** HHSN261201100084C
- (c) **Contract title:** Interdisciplinary Studies of Genetic and Environmental Causes of Cancer

(d) **Contract type:** Cost Plus Fixed Fee

(e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

Since 1977, Westat has provided support to the Genetic Epidemiology Branch (GEB), Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute (NCI), in its studies of cancer-prone families. The objective of these studies is to delineate genetic susceptibility factors and host-environment interactions in the etiology of cancer. The GEB is conducting these studies with an interdisciplinary approach, which focuses on the clinical, genetic, epidemiologic, and laboratory aspects of the studies.

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

(f) **Total contract value:** \$13,747,397

(g) **Period of performance:** 9-16-11 to 9-29-18

(h) **Contracting Officer contact:** Charles Park, (240) 276-5896; charles.park@nih.gov

(i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** Alisa Goldstein, Ph.D., alisa.goldstein@nih.gov; 240-276-7233

(j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** N/A

(k) **List of subcontractors:** N/A

(l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** Not in compliance; (b) (4) FAR reporting not applicable.

3.2 Similar Contracts and/or Subcontracts Completed in the Past 3 Years

The following are descriptions of five projects that Westat has completed in the last 3 years that illustrate our epidemiologic study capabilities.

3.2.1 General Statistical Support for the Environmental Protection Agency

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- (b) **Contract number:** EP-C-10-023
- (c) **Contract title:** General Statistical Support for the Environmental Protection Agency
- (d) **Contract type:** Cost Plus Fixed Fee
- (e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

This contract provided statistical support to all parts of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Westat provided support in the following areas:

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

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(b) (4)

- (f) **Total contract value:** Up to \$6,800,000
- (g) **Period of performance:** 6-1-10 to 11-30-15
- (h) **Contracting Officer contact:** Donna Reinhart, 513-487-2114, Reinhart.Donna@epamail.epa.gov
- (i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** Ahmar Siddiqui, (202) 566-1044, siddiqui.ahmar@epa.gov
- (j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** N/A
- (k) **List of subcontractors (if applicable):** (b) (4)
- (l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** (b) (4)

(b) (4)
(b) (4)

FAR reporting not applicable.

3.2.2 Support Services for Interdisciplinary Studies in Occupational and Environmental Cancer

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** National Cancer Institute
- (b) **Contract number:** Contract # HHSN261201200075C, Control # NO2CP-2012-00075
- (c) **Contract title:** Support Services for Interdisciplinary Studies in Occupational and Environmental Cancer
- (d) **Contract type:** Cost Plus fixed Fee
- (e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

Since 1997, Westat has provided support services to the Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch (OEEB) of the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute (NCI). (b) (4)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

Problems Encountered and Corrective Actions

(b) (4)

- (f) **Total contract value:** \$11,801,731
- (g) **Period of performance:** 9-20-12 to 9-19-17
- (h) **Contracting Officer contact:** Sarah Locke, (240) 276-7263, lockesj@mail.nih.gov
- (i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** Debra Silverman, (301) 435-4716, silvermd@mail.nih.gov
- (j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** N/A
- (k) **List of subcontractors (if applicable):**

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

- (l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** In compliance; (b) (4) FAR reporting not applicable.

3.2.3 Methodological Planning and Development Support for the National Children's Study – Biospecimen Methods

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- (b) **Contract number:** HHSN275201000121U
- (c) **Contract title:** Methodological Planning and Development Support for the National Children's Study – Biospecimen Methods
- (d) **Contract type:** T&M
- (e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

The National Children's Study (NCS) was a landmark prospective cohort study that was designed to follow approximately 100,000 U.S. children and their parents from before the child's birth for up to 21 years. Between 2005 and 2010, Westat helped organize, develop, field, and monitor the study in the first seven locations. (b) (4)

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(f) **Total contract value:** Up to \$4,329,251

(g) **Period of performance:** 9-24-10 to 9-23-15

- (h) **Contracting Officer contact:** Mr. Dana L. Harris, Contracting Officer, NICHD
- (i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** Dr. Jack Moye, Jr., Project Officer, NICHD
- (j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** N/A
- (k) **List of subcontractors (if applicable):**
- (l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** Not applicable

3.2.4 National Children's Study (NCS) Vanguard Study 2.0 Western Regional Operations Center (ROC)

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- (b) **Contract number:** HHSN275201200005I
- (c) **Contract title:** National Children's Study (NCS) Vanguard Study 2.0 Western Regional Operations Center (ROC)
- (d) **Contract type:** CPFF
- (e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

The National Children's Study (NCS) was a landmark prospective cohort study that was designed to follow approximately 100,000 U.S. children and their parents from before the child's birth for up to 21 years to examine the effects of environmental factors (e.g., air, water, diet, sound, family dynamics, community and cultural influences, and genetics) on their growth, development, and health. Under this indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract, Westat served as the Regional Operations Center (ROC) for the Western region (10 locations) of the NCS Vanguard Study 2.0.

The overarching objectives for this contract included transitioning the study from independently operated study centers to the Western ROC, maximizing retention of existing participants to facilitate ongoing data and specimen collection, and conducting formative research to investigate innovative scientific and operational approaches. (b) (4)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

- (f) **Total contract value:** Up to \$105,433,139
- (g) **Period of performance:** 9-26-12 to 9-25-17
- (h) **Contracting Officer contact:** Deborah Baca, (301) 443-7794, debby.baca@nih.gov
- (i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** Carl V. Hill, Ph.D., M.P.H., hillcv@mail.nih.gov
- (j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** N/A
- (k) **List of subcontractors (if applicable):**

(b) (4)

- (l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** Not in compliance. Because this is an IDIQ contract, the attainment of small business goals depends on the type of work actually assigned during the contract, which is not known at the time the small business subcontracting plan was proposed; (b) (4) FAR reporting not applicable.

3.2.5 Evaluation Design and Policy Assessments for Surveillance of Early Care and Education Settings Financed Solely by 2014 Prevention Public Funds

- (a) **Name of contracting activity:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- (b) **Contract number:** GS00F009DA, Subcontract Number: HHSD2002013M53968B, Purchase Order: 2002014F61212
- (c) **Contract title:** Evaluation Design and Policy Assessments for Surveillance of Early Care and Education Settings Financed Solely by 2014 Prevention Public Funds
- (d) **Contract type:** Time and Materials
- (e) **Brief description of contract or subcontract and relevance to this requirement:**

Despite the growing interest and focus on obesity prevention in early care and education (ECE) settings, there is no systematic mechanism to monitor the degree to which ECE facilities are implementing best practices or to track the impact of state and community ECE obesity prevention interventions over time. To address this gap, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) contracted with Westat to design a state-based pilot surveillance system for implementation in ECE facilities (not including day care homes).

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

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(b) (4)

- (f) **Total contract value:** \$249,475
- (g) **Period of performance:** 9-25-14 to 10-25-15
- (h) **Contracting Officer contact:** Donna Williams, 770-488-5353, Dwilliams6@cdc.gov
- (i) **Program Manager/Project Officer contact:** Meredith Reynolds, 770-826-5117, mtr6@cdc.gov
- (j) **Administrative Contracting Officer contact, if different from (h) above:** N/A
- (k) **List of subcontractors (if applicable):**

- (l) **Compliance with subcontracting plan goals for small disadvantaged business concerns, monetary targets for small disadvantaged business participation, and the notifications submitted under FAR 19.1202-4(b), if applicable:** Not applicable